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SRI C. V. K. RAO :—" Does it mean that the Hon. Ministers can sit mum? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have already said that the House has other weapons in its hands."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—GOVERNMENT MOTION.

MOTION UNDER RULE 24 OF THE MADRAS ASSEMBLY RULES.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, I beg to move—

' *That rule 24 of the Madras Assembly Rules be suspended and the House do resolve to transact Government business on Thursday, the 2nd April 1953.*'

" Sir, this will have reference only to the morning session, that is, from 8-30 a.m. to 1-30 p.m. We may reassemble in the afternoon at 3 p.m. and sit till 6 p.m. and transact non-official business."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The motion is—

' That rule 24 of the Madras Assembly Rules be suspended and the House do resolve to transact Government business on Thursday, the 2nd April 1953.' "

SRI G. LATCHANNA :—" May I know, Sir, when this sitting will come to a close? "

3-50 p.m. * SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" Sir, last time when we discussed about the evening session, we accepted it as a temporary measure. The point is the evening session would be a short session and the morning session a longer one. Morning time is interesting because we are all fresh. Evening time is very dull because we will be tired. The point is whether the non-official business should come in the evening and the official business in the morning or the non-official business should come in the morning and the official business in the evening. I feel we can finish off the non-official resolutions in the morning when we are fresh."

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, as a matter of fact this arrangement was first agreed to by Mr. Nagi Reddi and other leaders. It was further represented that, if it was possible we could have non-official business in the evening and I agreed to that. After all, non-official business is more interesting even though we sit in the evening. Even though we get tired, because it is interesting, we can conduct the non-official business in the evening. Official business is generally dull and let us therefore take it up in the morning session when we are fresh."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" I think we are doing our work amidst the dead heat. Cannot the Speaker save us by applying the provisions of the Shop Assistants Act to us also? "

* SRI VAVILALA GOPALAKRISHNAIAH :—" Sir, we are given only limited opportunities. But even that the Hon. Minister is taking away."

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MR. SPEAKER :—" The Leader of the House has consulted the Leader of the Opposition and other party leaders before bringing in this motion."

* SRI VAVILALA GOPALAKRISHNAIAH :—" In the motion there is no mention of the non-official business. It means only official business will come up tomorrow. In whatever way rule 24 is read, it says nothing about the non-official business. It should be clear in writing and not merely in the word of the Hon. Minister."

MR. SPEAKER :—" After mutual understanding, Government have agreed to take up non-official business in the evening."

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, I suppose my word is more important than any formal mention of this in the motion. I gave the assurance that we would sit in the evening from 3 p.m. to take up the non-official business. I hope he will be satisfied with my word."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The question is—

'That rule 24 of the Madras Assembly Rules be suspended and the House do resolve to transact Government business on Thursday, the 2nd April 1953.' "

The motion was carried.

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" Sir, are we sitting today till 7 in the night? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We would like to sit till 7 o'clock because we have assembled only at 3 p.m."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" We can sit till the Lignite (Acquisition of Land) Bill, 1953, is over."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We can finish all the Bills if Mr. Venkateswarlu co-operates."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Mr. Venkateswarlu will not co-operate under any circumstances."

SRI V. SRI KRISHNA :—" When will this sitting come to a close, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I was hoping to finish all the business by the 4th April. But we may have to sit on the 6th and 7th April also."

III.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS LIGNITE (ACQUISITION OF LAND) BILL, 1953.

* THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Mr. Speaker, I beg to introduce the Madras Lignite (Acquisition of Land) Bill[a], 1953, and move—

'That the Bill be taken into consideration at once.'

[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 11th March 1953.